

VOTING INFORMATION NEWS

A roundup of voting news from the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) 3 3 For voters, potential voters and those who assist voters.

The *Communicating With Your Elected Officials: 105th Congress & State Governors 1997-1998* pamphlet, provided by the Federal Voting Assistance Program, is now available for those citizens covered by the *Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA)*.

The pamphlet includes the names of all members of the 105th Congress and the State Governors, as well as information on how to contact them by mail, telephone, fax and e-mail, where available. The booklet consists of 32 pages, and fits into a regular business-size (#10) envelope for easy mail distribution.

The pamphlet will be distributed to military personnel, the Department of State and other organizations through the following distribution channels. The publication number is "97/98c".

Army: Units/Activities may request copies of this brochure through their publications channels. Requisition as MISC PUB 608-7 from overseas and MISC PUB 608-6 from CONUS as single unit "EA" issue. All requests must be made electronically through one of the following systems:

1. STARPUBS DDN INTERFACE SYSTEM (SDIS) -
asqzim0@hoffman-emh1.army.mil
2. World Wide Web -
<http://www-usappc.hoffman.army.mil>
3. USAPPC Bulletin Board System -
DSN 221-6736/6737 or
703-325-6736/6737.

Emergency requests should be made through the Telephone Ordering System by calling DSN 221-9224 or 703-325-9224. This requires a Publications Identification Number to be used:

MISC PUB 608-7, PIN - 074114000
MISC PUB 608-6, PIN - 074115000

Navy: The Navy will distribute copies through normal distribution channels. Additional copies may be obtained by calling the Navy Voting Action Officer, Ms. Thelma Jones, at the number listed on page 3.

Air Force: The Air Force will automatically ship 1 copy of the booklet

for every 20 active duty personnel to each Installation Voting Officer (IVO). The IVO will then distribute one to each of the Installation's Unit Voting Assistance Officers. If a Unit Voting assistance office does not receive a copy, contact your IVO or John Lowrance using the information listed on page 3.

Marine Corps: The brochure will be automatically distributed to all major Marine Corps commands via Marine Corps Logistics Base (MCLB), Albany, GA. This will be a one-time distribution as these brochures are non-retention items at MCLB.

Coast Guard: Copies will be distributed to all Cutters, Standard Headquarters/Area/District/MLC units within the Coast Guard by the DOT Distribution Center. Additional copies may be requested through the Coast Guard Service Voting Action Officer, LCDR Reginald Sealey, at the numbers listed on page 3.

State Department: FVAP, with the assistance of the Department of State, will distribute copies of the pamphlet to American Embassies/Consulates abroad. Posts requiring additional copies may request them by cable to CA/OCS/ACS/AF Attention: Voting Officer.

Other organizations:

Overseas Citizens Organizations and corporation representatives not associated with the Department of State or the Military Services may request the booklet directly from the FVAP at the address and phone number listed on page 2, or fax requests to FVAP at (703) 693-5507 or by E-Mail at vote@fvap.gov.

If you have already placed a request with the FVAP, the booklet will be mailed directly to you at the address provided at the time of the request.

When making requests, please indicate your organization's name, a contact person in your organization, telephone and fax numbers, quantity of copies requested and the complete address of your organization.

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Stateside

Legislative Initiative Update - In the March issue of VIN we discussed many of the initiatives the Federal Voting Assistance Program pursues with the legislatures of the states and territories to further facilitate the electoral process to help ensure *Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA)* citizens are able to exercise their right to vote. The following is a sampling of legislation presently under consideration in various states which may effect *UOCAVA* citizens.

Arizona: Senate Bill 1280 expands state special write in ballot access to overseas civilian citizens and makes correct reference to the *UOCAVA*. Status: Currently on House floor awaiting its third reading.

California: Assembly Bill 44 requires a study of the use of a digital electoral system for the collection, storage and processing of electronically generated and transmitted messages to permit any eligible person to register to vote, sign any petition, and vote in any election using the digital system. Referred to the Appropriations Committee. Senate Bill 490 would require local election officials to notify an absentee voter if their voted ballot was not counted for any reason and state the reason(s). Referred to the Election and Reapportionment Committee.

Massachusetts: House Bill 486 simplifies the language of the absentee voting laws in the Commonwealth. Referred to Joint Committee on Election Laws.

North Carolina: Senate Bill 2 would move the primary elections from May to September. Referred to Committee on Rules.

Texas: House Bill 841 - would allow voting on election day by a person on a space flight. This bill has left the Elections Committee and gone to the full House for consideration. House Bill 1967 - would allow the electronic transmission of a voted ballot for members of the military, the late counting of absentee ballots mailed by election day, the use of a State Write-In Absentee Ballot for those who cannot receive regular mail during the election period and extend the use of the Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot to citizens outside of their county of current domicile. This bill has been referred to the Elections Committee.

If you have comments or questions on any of the above legislation in your state you can reach most state legislatures through links provided at the FVAP **Website** listed below, or phone the FVAP for mailing addresses.

Election Calendar Update - The Mayoral election in Buffalo, New York has been scheduled for Tuesday, September 9, 1997.

Voting Assistance Officers

"To Do" This Month

- [] Stress the importance of participating in elections held at the state, county and municipal levels (where allowed by state law). Remind citizens that thousands of elections are being held this year and inform them of those in their state. Dates are available through issues of this newsletter and on the DoD Voting Information Center.
- [] Encourage submissions to the 1997 Voting Slogan contest from all citizens you assist. **Remember** - the deadline for submissions is **June 30, 1997** (see article page 3).
- [] This newsletter and news releases are now available by e-mail or fax. Contact Marilyn Reck of the FVAP for your choice of method of distribution of this information.
- [] Feedback from Voting Assistance Officers and citizens is always welcome. Send your comments and suggestions to the FVAP at the numbers below. (Results from the official '96 Post Election Survey will be available later this Spring).
- [] Make sure you have sufficient quantities of materials for participation in '97 elections. Encourage participation in elections this year.

Federal Voting Assistance Program

Voting Information News provides information for citizens and Voting Assistance Officers and is published monthly by the staff of the Federal Voting Assistance Program.

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(703) 695-0663
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DSN 223-6500



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vote@fvap.gov
<http://www.fvap.gov>

YOUR VOTE IS THE ONE THAT MATTERS



Note: Copying or using VIN articles in other publications, etc. is encouraged.

Slogan Contest Ends Next Month!

Time is running out to submit your slogan ideas for the FVAP's 1997 Voting Slogan Contest. Only entries received on or before June 30, 1997 will be considered. So far we have received nearly 600 entries from the Air Force, civilians have submitted almost 550 entries, close to 350 entries have been received from the Navy, Coast Guard members have contributed over 225 entries, the Marine Corps has sent in 125 slogans and almost 100 submissions have come from Army personnel. **We need another 5000 slogans to beat the 1995 record of 7000 entries received! Submit yours today!**

The winning slogan will be featured in FVAP materials including motivational voting posters and the 1998-99 *Voting Assistance Guide*. The first, second, third and honorable mention winners will receive a certificate of recognition from the Secretary of Defense.

There is no limit to the number of entries an individual participant may submit. Slogans must be typed or legibly hand-written on a regular 8 1/2 x 11 inch sheet of paper. Send entries to the Federal Voting Assistance Program, Attn: Voting Slogan Contest, The Pentagon, Room 1B457, Washington, DC 20301-1155. You may also fax your entry to (703) 693-5507 or e-mail it to vote@fvap.gov.

Regardless of how you submit your entry, be sure to include all of the following information: your full name, (service, if military), mailing address, daytime telephone number and fax number. (We want to make sure we can contact you, should your entry be one of the winners!)

Remember - the deadline for submission is **June 30, 1997.**



Ombudsman Service

If you cannot resolve your voting concern locally, it's good to know the FVAP is just a phone call away!

In the U.S. 1-800-438-8683

Antigua 1-800-326-0220
Australia 0014-800-128509
Bahamas 180-995-09-20
Bahrain 800-621
Barbados 800-534-2104
Belgium 078-111-455
Bermuda 800-623-0077
Brazil 000-811-926-5585
Canada 800-995-0920
Chile 00-020-3071
Colombia 980-12-0896
Costa Rica 0-800-011-0125
Denmark 800-10-169
Dominican Rep. 800-751-7131
Finland 9800-156-284
France 0-800-900-156
Germany 013-081-9277
Greece 008-001-22-586
Hong Kong 800-6984
Hungary 00-800-11-158
Ireland 1-800-557-083
Israel 177-102-4012
Italy 1-678-72-444
Indonesia 00-800-1-923-3685
Japan 0031-11-2429

Liechtenstein 1-155-4514
Luxembourg 0-800-2499
Malaysia 800-2170
Mexico 95-800-010-1438
Monaco 0-59-00-156
Netherlands 06-022-2499
Neth. Antilles 001-800-753-0767
New Zealand 0-800-44-0799
Norway 800-12093
Panama 0083-28027-4197
Philippines 1-800-116-0009
Portugal 0501-8-13-035
San Marino 1-678-72-444
Singapore 800-1300-210
South Korea 0078-14-800-0203
Spain 900-93-1108
Sweden 020-793-503
Switzerland 155-4514
Taiwan 0080-10-3153
Thailand 001-800-1-1-923-6685
Trinidad & Tobago 1-800-934-7340
United Kingdom 0-800-895-7403
Uruguay 000-411-923-7985
Vatican City 1678-72-4444

1997 News Release Recap

Since the April issue of *Voting Information News*, the following news releases have been disseminated by the FVAP. If you have not received them or would like to add your name to the distribution list for future releases, please contact Marilyn Reck at the numbers provided at the bottom of page 2.

Release 10: Texas Announces

Special Run-Off Election on April 12, 1997 to Replace Representative Tejeda
Release 11: Candidate list for Special Election in New Mexico's 3rd Congressional District
May 13, 1997

VOTING INFORMATION CENTER

Contact your:

- U.S. Senators
- U.S. Representative
- Governor
- State Chief Election Official
- Department of State or
- Service Voting Action Officer

Hear recorded messages from these elected officials

Keep up with the latest election news from your state

Call Today:

703 - 693 - 6500
DSN 223 - 6500

State Department: Office of American Citizens Services

Voting Action Officer: Mr. Peter Van Buren tel: (202) 647-9100 (FTS) 8-647-9100, fax: (202) 647-6201

Service Voting Action Officers

Dept. of the Army: Mr. Tom Feazell tel: (703) 325-4530 (DSN) 221-4530, fax: (703) 325-4532, fax DSN: 221-4532

Dept. of the Navy: Ms. Thelma Jones tel: (703) 614-3248, (DSN) 224-3248, fax: (703) 693-6471

Dept. of the Air Force: Mr. John Lowrance tel: (210) 652-4369 (DSN) 487-4369, fax: (210) 652-5982, fax DSN: 487-5982

Marine Corps: GySgt Elijah Kinton tel: (703) 696-2026 (DSN) 426-2026, fax: (703) 696-2068, fax DSN: 426-2068
ELMS [GMHP03:HQIHQMC]; Internet: kinton_jre@mqg-smtp3.usmc.mil; E-mail: kinton@mhp@hqmc

U.S. Coast Guard: LCDR Reggie Sealey tel: (202) 267-2239, fax: (202) 267-4823

Please share this copy of VIN with others.

FVAP Election Word Find!



A	D	S	F	B	E	V	I	R	D	N	O	I	T	A	R	T	S	I	G	E	R	K	D	E	E	T	U	O	E
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Find the words from the list below horizontally, vertically, forward, backward or diagonally.

Good Luck!

ABSENTEE
 BALLOT
 CONGRESS
 DEBATE WATCH
 ELECTION
 ENFRANCHISE
 FEDERAL
 FPCA
 FVAP
 FWAB
 GET OUT THE VOTE
 GUIDE
 LEGISLATION
 LOCAL
 MUNICIPAL
 OFFICE
 POSTERS
 PRESIDENT
 PRIMARY
 REGISTRATION DRIVE
 REPRESENTATIVE
 RUNOFF
 SENATOR
 STATE
 SPECIAL
 SLOGAN
 SURVEY
 VAO
 VIN
 VOTE
 VOTING INFORMATION
 CENTER
 WORLD WIDE WEB

